

TILLMAN AND McLAURIN

Came to Blows in the United States Senate

Both Declared in Contempt and Both Make Apologies

Washington, Feb. 22.—Washington's birthday was signaled in the United States senate by a flat fight. The two senators from South Carolina were the active participants in the affray.

Mr. Tillman in the course of a speech upon the Philippine tariff bill, made serious reflections upon the honor of his colleague, Mr. McLauren. In brief, he charged that his vote in support of the ratification of the treaty of Paris had been cast through the exercise of improper influences.

Mr. McLauren was not in the chamber at the time, being engaged in committee work, but he was sent for, and appeared just as Mr. Tillman concluded his speech.

A MALICIOUS LIE.

Pale as ashes, Mr. McLauren rose to address the senate, speaking to a question of personal privilege. He reviewed the Tillman's charges briefly and then denounced the statement made by his colleague as a "wilful, malicious and deliberate lie."

Scarcely had the words fallen from his lips when Mr. Tillman, sitting a few seats from him, with Mr. Teller of Colorado behind him, sprang at Mr. McLauren, who had turned toward Mr. Tillman, met him half way, and in an instant these two senators, having swept Mr. Teller aside, were engaged in a rough and tumble fight. Mr. McLauren received a heavy blow on the forehead, while Mr. Tillman got a punch on the nose which brought blood.

COMBATANTS PARTED.

Asst. Sergt. at Arms Taylor sprang over desks to reach and separate the combatants and himself received several blows. He got between them finally and by main strength wrenched them apart. Senators Warren of Wyoming and Scott of West Virginia, two of the most powerful men in the senate, leaped to his assistance, and caught the arms of the belligerents, forcing them to their seats.

Intense excitement prevailed in the senate and in the galleries, which were thronged with people who had been attracted by the spirited debate. Every body was on his feet. Not a word, however, was spoken. Senators stood about the chamber for the moment quite helpless and pale to the lips.

Finally order was restored partially, and in the midst of the intense excitement the senate went into secret legislative session. For two hours it discussed the event behind closed doors. When the doors were opened it was known that the Tillman and McLauren had been declared in contempt of the senate.

PERMITTED TO APOLOGIZE.

They were permitted, by a vote of the senate, to make apologies to the senate. The statements were listened to by the senators and the people in the galleries with breathless interest. Senator Tillman left the capital when adjournment was taken for recess and did not return to the senate chamber. Mr. McLauren was in the chamber about 5 o'clock, but left early. Neither senator would make a statement.

Still controlling himself with an effort, but still speaking very calmly and with a carefully modulated tone, Mr. McLauren said, and his words cut through the senate chamber like a knife:

"I desire to state, Mr. President, I would not use as strong language as I intended had I not seen after the senate met replied to these insinuations and told that they were untrue."

"Now say," continued Mr. McLauren with distinct emphasis upon every word and half turning toward his colleague, Mr. Tillman, who sat in the same row only three seats away, "that statement is a wilful, malicious and deliberate lie."

Mr. McLauren got no further with his statement.

TILLMAN STRIKES FIRST BLOW.

Mr. Tillman, who was occupying his regular seat on the main aisle, sprang with tiger-like ferocity at his colleague, Mr. Teller of Colorado, who was sitting at his desk between the two South Carolina senators, "was swept aside without ceremony. Indeed, the infuriated Tillman climbed over him in his effort to reach McLauren."

Without the slightest hesitation Mr. McLauren sprang to meet the attack half way. Mr. Tillman aimed a wild blow at his colleague with his right hand. It landed upon Mr. McLauren's forehead just above the left eye, although the force was partially absorbed upon McLauren's arm, which he had raised in an effort to parry the blow.

McLAURIN'S RIGHT ARM.

Instantly McLauren's right arm shot out, the blow landing upon Tillman's face, apparently on the nose. Again Tillman struck out frantically, this time with his left hand. The blow did not land upon McLauren. Tillman followed a wild scuffle, both senators clutching at each other madly.

Sensors Warren and Scott, both of whom are powerful men, rushed to help the combatants to separate them. Asst. Sergt.-at-Arms Layton sprang over desks in his effort to reach the belligerent senators.

Just as he seized McLauren Tillman aimed a left-handed blow at his colleague, which struck Mr. Tillman in the face. Fortunately the blow was glancing and did no special harm. Mr. Layton tore them apart. Both senators were still striking wildly at each other, some of the blows landing upon Mr. Layton.

HOLD BOTH BELLIGERENTS.

An instant later the angry senators were pinched in the arms of Senators Warren and Scott. They were dragged further apart, although they still made desperate efforts to get at each other. Finally they were forced into their seats.

McLauren, although very pale, seemed to be the calmer of the two. Mr. Tillman was as white as a sheet. As he sat down in his seat he drew his handkerchief from his pocket and wiped blood from his face, that seemingly was flowing slightly from the nose. Till that time it had been supposed that no blood had been drawn in the encounter.

During the fight senators all over the chamber were on their feet. Not a word, however, was spoken. The senate, nevertheless, had received such a shock.

The president pro tem, Mr. Frye, rose and in an attempt to regain composure, in a low and unimpassioned tone he declared that the senate be in order. He wiped sharply two or three times with his handkerchief, and in a few minutes a semi-calm order was obtained although the senate, having by this time nearly recovered from the shock, moved hurriedly about the chamber.

replied about the chamber. Mr. Gallinger was first to address the chair. "Mr. President," said he, "I ask that the doors be closed."

Again the president pro tem requested the senate to be in order, and that senators resume their seats.

It was reserved for Mr. Pritchard of North Carolina, in a measure, to re-lieve the strain under which all were laboring. He desired to address the senate on the pending Philippine bill, and calling for the attention of the chair, he said:

"If the senator from South Carolina (Mr. McLauren) has concluded—"

He was interrupted by Mr. McLauren, who said, very calmly:

"I will now proceed with my remarks, which were so unceremoniously interrupted."

CALLED TO ORDER.

"I call the senator from South Carolina to order," interrupted Mr. Teller. "Which one of the senators?" inquired Mr. McLauren, with some asperity.

"This one," said Mr. Teller, indicating Mr. McLauren, "and the other one, too, for that matter."

"Mr. President," objected Mr. Foraker. "I join in this. Surely," he continued with great feeling, his face pale with excitement, "there is some way to restore the dignity of this body."

"Certainly," said Mr. Burrows, who had been endeavoring vainly to get the eye of the chair, "and the senate cannot let this thing pass."

Mr. McLauren moved into the main aisle, "I move that the senate go into executive session," said Mr. Foraker, who had moved into the main aisle, "I move that the senate go into executive session."

Without comment, every senator still laboring under the emotion which all endeavored to conceal, the motion was agreed to and at 2:32 the doors were closed.

In executive session the senate at once took up the startling encounter, and a resolution was offered referring the matter to the committee on privilege and elections to report as to what method the senate should pursue. Meanwhile both Tillman and McLauren had been committed to the custody of sergeant-at-arms to prevent any hostile meeting between them.

The proceedings after the doors were closed covered almost two hours of time, and resulted in the adoption of a resolution in the form of an order, as follows:

DECLARED IN CONTEMPT.

Ordered, that the two senators from the state of South Carolina be declared in contempt of the senate on account of the altercation and personal encounter between them this day in open session, and that the matter be referred to the committee on privilege and elections, with instructions to report what action shall be taken by the senate in regard thereto.

The discussion which occurred in the secret session was based largely upon the foregoing resolution, the first suggestion of which was made by Mr. Foraker. In presenting the resolution, he immediately after the doors of the chamber were closed, Mr. Foraker took occasion to remark that the occurrence had been an outrage upon the dignity of the senate, of which the senate should take cognizance.

Mr. Hoar endorsed the resolution of Mr. Foraker, but said he thought the action of the senate should be more explicit than contemplated by the resolution. He therefore moved to amend it by ordering that the two senators from South Carolina be declared in contempt by the senate for disorderly conduct and speech in its presence, and that both should be taken into custody. In support of this amendment, he said that any court or any other parliamentary body would commit men for as grave an offense against its dignity as this was its judgment.

WILLING TO APOLOGIZE.

Mr. Blackburn and other senators then stated that the two South Carolina senators were willing to apologize and thus purge themselves of contempt, and in view of this statement Mr. Hoar withdrew the portion of his amendment providing for their commitment.

Mr. Foraker then accepted the amendment of Mr. Hoar and it was adopted. The resolution, as amended, was taken by a number of senators spoke, and while there were many kind utterances regarding both senators, there was no exception in the opinions expressed as to the gravity and seriousness of the offense. Among the senators who thus declared their views were Messrs. Teller, Fairbanks, Hanna, Blackburn and Spooner. Mr. Hanna suggested that, serious as had been the encounter in the senate, it was not so grave as the charge of misconduct against Mr. McLauren, and he thought that any investigation undertaken should extend to that matter.

NOT UNPRECEDENTED.

Mr. Teller, while uniting with other senators in deprecating the occurrence, said that it was not unprecedented; that there had been a similar affair on the floor of the senate, and between Senators Benton and Foote. He also suggested that Mr. Spooner was not entirely blameless for today's occurrence, because his interrogatory had provoked Mr. Tillman to make explicitly the charges which had been put vaguely made before his interference in the debate.

A motion was made by Mr. Teller looking to the opening of the doors. "This was voted down 15 to 42," the Republican senators generally expressing themselves as willing to hear the apologies promised, but generally insisting that there should first be action on the resolution.

On the suggestion of Mr. Bacon there was a division of the two branches on the question whether the two senators were in contempt and as to the method of a unanimous vote. The remainder of the resolution referring the matter to the committee on privilege and elections was adopted without a roll call. Both the South Carolina senators remained in their seats during the entire session.

After the secret session, the senate at 2:35 resumed business in open session. Mr. Blackburn made a statement of what had been done in executive session and asked whether any statement could be made to the senators in open session by either of the senators who they were in contempt of the senate. There was a lengthy discussion of the question and finally President pro tem Frye ruled:

Lazy Liver

When the liver goes wrong, everything is wrong. You have dyspepsia, coated tongue, constipation, biliousness, sick headache, nausea, general debility. One of Ayer's Pills each night, just one, gently starts the liver and removes all trouble.

"I have used Ayer's Pills for liver complaint, and have found them to be the best thing I have ever tried."

E. N. Ross, Sidel, Ill.

J. C. AYER & CO., Lowell, Mass.

violating it must take his chair, and he cannot be recognized by the presiding officer until the senate has relieved him of that motion.

"Of course," he said, "the senate from South Carolina can be relieved of the condition in which they are so they can be recognized so far as the chair is concerned, but a motion and by a majority vote of the senate. What will happen after the two senators have purged themselves so far as it is possible of this contempt the chair will be prepared to rule whatever that question is raised."

At the conclusion of the ruling of Mr. Frye, Mr. Blackburn said, "I move that the senator from South Carolina be given the floor."

"Why one senator from South Carolina?" inquired Mr. Spooner.

"I move that the two senators from South Carolina," began Mr. Blackburn.

"That's right," said Mr. Spooner.

"Then," Mr. Blackburn continued, "I move that the senator from South Carolina be given the floor."

"I have been endeavoring to feel their own way to the senate to purge themselves of the contempt."

TILLMAN RISES.

The motion was carried. In a breathless silence Mr. Tillman rose to address the senate. He was calm and collected, and gave no indication by his manner of the trouble which he had been through. He had been one of the principal actors but a short time before. He spoke deliberately and every eye turned toward him eagerly to catch his words.

Mr. President: If I have always esteemed it a high honor and privilege to be a member of this body, I have never had any legislative experience when I came here, and my previous service as governor of South Carolina for four years had not prepared me for the duties of a senator. I am now in a position to feel that I have been one of the principal actors but a short time before. He spoke deliberately and every eye turned toward him eagerly to catch his words.

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McLAURIN SPEAKS.

Mr. McLauren rose at the conclusion of Mr. Tillman's brief address. He tried to be calm, but it was evident that he was suppressing his emotion by an effort. He spoke with greater feeling than had been manifested by his colleague, particularly when he told the senate how sorely he had been tried by the accusations which had been made against him from time to time. His statement followed:

"Mr. President: I did not realize that I was in attendance on the senate, nor do I think now if my words are read in the record that I was in contempt of the senate, but at the same time, in the opinion of the honorable body, I beg leave to apologize."

"I desire to say, Mr. President, that I have been very sorely and severely tried. I was in attendance on the committee on Indian affairs when I received a message from a friend that my presence was needed here."

"The history of the vote on the Spanish treaty is known to all of you. There have been statements in newspapers and insinuations that I had been influenced by improper motives in connection with my vote. Knowing, in my own soul, and knowing that God in heaven also knows that it was false, when I was told that it was charged down to me, I was so enraged by what I considered an assault upon my honor as a man, and especially in view of the fact that in the beginning of the session after the action of my party associate, I made a most careful and deliberate statement explaining all those matters. I did not feel as a man that I could ever hold my tongue and say again if I did not resent it in the place where it was delivered in the strongest and most forcible terms that I could employ."

STIR IN THE SENATE.

As Mr. McLauren uttered the last sentence of his address intimating that if there was any further effort to press upon him the accusations which had been made against him, there might be trouble, there was an evident stir in the chamber. Several senators rose to their feet, as if half expecting a renewal of the outbreak of trouble. Mr. Bacon of Georgia and Mr. Patterson of Colorado, both of whom were sitting near Mr. McLauren, tried hard to stop where he was, Mr. Patterson saying:

"I beg the senator to refrain."

"With respect to that, Mr. President," said Mr. McLauren.

After some discussion it was arranged, at the suggestion of Mr. Lodge, in charge of the Philippine bill, that discussion should be resumed. Mr. McLauren of Mississippi desired to address the senate.

Mr. McLauren then took the floor in opposition to the pending measure. He was once immensely surprised "Through long suffering from dyspepsia," he writes, "my wife was greatly run down. She had no strength or vigor, and suffered great distress from her stomach, but she tried Electric Bitters, which helped her at once, and after using four bottles, she is entirely well, can eat anything. It's a grand tonic, and its gentle but active qualities are splendid for torpid liver." For Indigestion, Loss of Appetite, Stomach and Liver troubles, it's a positive, guaranteed cure. Only 50c at Z. C. M. I. Drug Dept.

TRACIE'S DEATH

OF OLD RESIDENT

Daniel Alexander Sends Bullet Into His Own Head.

WAS CLEANING THE PISTOL.

Went to Room to Prepare to Go Visiting With His Wife—Found Lying in Pool of Blood.

Daniel Alexander, who has been a familiar figure in the business circles of Salt Lake for many years, was accidentally shot and killed last evening. He was in the act of cleaning an old .45 caliber Colt revolver, when it discharged, sending the bullet through his head. There was only one bullet in the pistol and the apparently careless handling of the gun by Mr. Alexander can only be accounted for on the theory that he thought the weapon contained no bullet. There was, however, no eye witness to the affair, but the contention of the family that it was an accident is strengthened in the fact that an open pocket knife and an old rag were lying near the spot where Alexander fell. Moreover the hapless victim was not in a suicidal mood. He had been celebrating his wife's birthday all day and was in a very happy vein. All of his children, except two were present and he was preparing to go out with his wife to spend the evening.

It was a little after 5 o'clock when Mr. Alexander had his wife get ready while he would go upstairs to his room. This is what we aim to do, might be in readiness for the trunk who had been lingering around his house for the past few days. He would, however, be ready as soon as she was. One of his children laughing told him not to get careless with the gun, as he vanished up the stairs. After a lapse of a few minutes there was a loud report. This is what we aim to do, might be in readiness for the trunk who had been lingering around his house for the past few days. He would, however, be ready as soon as she was. One of his children laughing told him not to get careless with the gun, as he vanished up the stairs. After a lapse of a few minutes there was a loud report. This is what we aim to do, might be in readiness for the trunk who had been lingering around his house for the past few days. He would, however, be ready as soon as she was. 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